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Man Charged With Kidnapping 4-Year-Old Boy

A North Hollywood man was charged today with kidnapping a 4-year-old boy who was walking with his babysitter and 6-year-old brother in the Westchester area, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Andron Gazarov (dob 1/20/1981) was charged in case SA086645 with one count each of kidnapping, attempted kidnapping, assault by means likely to produce great bodily injury and indecent exposure.

Prosecutors said Gazarov approached the two children and the babysitter on Wednesday afternoon as they were walking in the area of Loyola Boulevard and Manchester Avenue.

Deputy District Attorney Simone Shay of the Sex Crimes Division said Gazarov punched the babysitter and then snatched the 4-year-old boy. At one point, Gazarov also picked up the older child, the prosecutor said.

Gazarov ran away with the child as the babysitter followed after them, screaming for help, the prosecutor said. A Good Samaritan managed to stop Gazarov and take the child away from him until police arrived. While waiting for police, Gazarov is accused of taking off his clothes and exposing himself.

If convicted as charged, Gazarov faces up to 12 years in prison. He's scheduled to be arraigned Monday in Department 144 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Pacific Division investigated the case.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.